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prominent than in *Hottentottum*; sterigmas simple; spermatia staff-shaped, 9- to 11-thousandths of a millimetre in length. Reaction of the hymenium from blue becoming vinous-red. Gonidia from 13 to 18 mmm. in diameter.

A thin section of the thallus shows it to be composed of a compact medullary tissue of longitudinal fibres, which pass perpendicularly to the surface on either side, the gonidial stratum being about one millimetre below the upper surface. After treatment with potash, sulphuric acid and iodine, the hymenium assumes a deep blue color, the hypothecium a pale yellow, and the internal contents of the spermogones a vinous-red, and the hyphae of the thallus become a pale blue, which is deeper when the section is of some thickness.

In the only fragment of *O. Hottentottum* which I have seen, the laciniae of the thallus are narrow and elongated, the upper surface is darker than in var. *Arizonicum* and the lower surface uneven but not lacerate, with stiff fibres at the margin. The apothecia are also ciliate and the margin is more inflexed than in the other. A thin section shows the structure to be the same in both plants, the inferior stratum being, however, somewhat narrower in *Hottentottum*; the gonidia all about 13 mmm. in diameter. On the application of potash, the gonidial stratum becomes a bright red, a change which does not occur in var. *Arizonicum*. The spores in *Hottentottum* (seen only in the thekes where they often are smaller than when free) are like those of the other plant, but from 9 to 11 mmm. in length. Reaction of the hymenium with iodine, blue. The hyphae of the lower stratum are continued into the solid fibrils.

It is curious that two other Cape lichens, *Parmelia molliuscula*, Ach., and *Pertussaria ambigens*, (Nyl.) Tuck., have also been found in the western regions, the one being not uncommon in the Rocky Mountains and the other occurring in Oregon.

§ 136 **Ballast Plants in and near New York City.**—I have found but little opportunity during the past season to continue the observation of adventive plants introduced with ballast, reported in previous numbers of the BULLETIN, (Vol. vii. p. 122). The principal grounds near Communipaw, containing the freshest deposits of ballast have been frequently dug over to destroy weeds, so that there was little chance for any mature growths. No new ballast has been brought there this year, and there are doubtless other places near New York where it has been deposited which if sought out and watched during the next few years would richly repay attentive observation.

The results of a few visits to the grounds at Communipaw Ferry are given below, with the names of several species which were collected in 1880, but omitted by mistake in last year's report. Many, if not most, of those previously reported continue to reappear where the ground is undisturbed. *Asperugo procumbens*, *Neslia paniculata*, and *Sisymbrium Irio* were found in considerable masses in places quite distant from where first found; and *Lepidium Draba*, exterminated where it had flourished several years, appeared from fresh seeds in another quarter.

In the following list, the plants not in Gray's Manual are printed in *italics* or in small CAPITALS, the latter designating plants not before reported here so far as known. The asterisk (*) indicates those not previously found within our local limits, the dagger (†), those found by Mr. Martindale or Mr. Parker near Philadelphia. The numbers are continued from the report of Dec. 1880. In No. 298 (Dec. 1880) erase "var. *dentata*."

- †366. **SISYMBRIUM PANNONICUM*, Jacq. 8th Avenue, July, 1880.
 †367. *Sisymbrium Thalianum*, Gaud. Com. May.
 †368. *Lepidium ruderales*, L. Com. May–June. The European form, with root-leaves (4'–6') in a dense rosette, bi-pinnatifid, lobes linear, very slender and graceful.
 369. **TRIFOLIUM OCHROLEUCUM*, L. Com. May.
 †370. **TRIFOLIUM LAPPACEUM*, L. Com. Aug. 1 plant.
 †371. **Hippocrepis comosa*, L. Com. May Flowers only. Scarce.
 372. **Colutea arborescens*, L. Com. June. Wharf.
 †373. **Bupleurum protractum*, Link. Com. June, 1880.
 †374. **Caucalis* (*Troilus*) *infesta*, Curtis. Com. June.
 †375. **Hemizonia ramosissima*, Benth. Com. July.
 †376. **Matricaria discoidea*, DC. Com. Aug. Western.
 †377. **Tussilago Farfara*, L. Com. May.
 318. **CENTAUREA AUSTRIACA*, Willd. Com. June. The same as last year called *C. Phrygia*, L., from which *C. Austriaca* is distinguished by its three upper series of scales surpassing and not covered by the long recurved lower appendages.
 †378. **WAHLENBERGIA LINARIOIDES*, DC. Com. July, 1880. Chili.
 379. **Gilia achillaefolia*, Benth. Gowanus, July, 1880, West.
 380. **Amsinkia intermedia*, F. & M. Gowanus. July, 1880. West.
 381. **VERBASCUM SINUATUM*, L. Com. July, 1880.
 †382. *Roubieva multifida*, Moq. Gowanus. Aug., 1880.
 †383. *CHENOPODIUM OBOVATUM*, DC. Hunters Point. July, 1880.
 384. **Euphorbia Esula*, L. Com. Oct. 1880.
 †385. *Alopecurus geniculatus*, L. 8th Ave. Aug.
 386. **ALOPECURUS BULBOSUS*, L. Com. Aug.
 New York, Nov., 1881. A. B.

§ 137. **An Unpublished Letter of Wm. Darlington.**—By the courtesy of Robert C. Davis, of Philadelphia, who possesses the original, we are permitted to present our readers with the following letter, which, as part of a correspondence between two eminent botanists of a past generation, has much interest. We need not regret that De Candolle's genus *Darlingtonia* had to give place to Willdenow's *Desmanthus*, since this enabled Dr. Torrey to compliment his friend by naming for him the magnificent California pitcher-plant.

WEST CHESTER, Penn., Feb. 7, 1829.

DEAR SIR:—Yours of the 1st inst. was received this day, together with a *second* portion of the 5th Edition of your manual. By my Letter forwarded a few days since, you will perceive that I had previously received the *first* portion. I feel much indebted for your complimentary Letter; for, although the compliment is very extravagant there is such an air of blunt frankness about it, that I cannot help